



Attorney Docket No. 4110 P003

1685  
JW  
PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Kiamars Hajizadeh and Zakir S.Murtaza

Application No.: 09/993,391

Confirmation No.: 4943

Filed On: November 14, 2001

Examiner: Counts, Gary W.

Art Unit: 1645

For: Rapid Prion-Detection Assay

### REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 26, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Response to the Office Action mailed April 26, 2004. The original period of response to the Office Action was a shortened statutory period of three months from the mailing date. Applicants have filed concurrently herewith a Petition for a three (3) month extension of time. Accordingly, the time period for response is extended to October 26, 2004, and this Reply is being submitted within that time limit. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in the present Application in view of the Amendments and Remarks below.

In response to the Office Action of April 26, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.